2;Skinner E-5 (1917) 1920
SA19 Talamanca SA19
Bribri

764 lasts from fifteen to twenty-two days. The family of the deceased spend all they can on the feast. Chicha and cacao are prepared in large quantities, and animals are killed. The *oko* who "owns" this function is sent for, and the *tsûku* is hired to sing, accompanied by two attendants. All three of these latter bear rattles, while various others, the number of whom is not specified, beat drums. All day long the *tsûku* and his attendants make music while the guests and mourners feast. On the last day all the guests leave, and the *oko* and the mourners remove the skeleton from its temporary grave in the woods and wrap it in a bark blanket. The bundle is carried out into the woods a short distance from the camp, where a private ceremony is held, of which details could not be gathered. After this rite the bones are taken to the dead-house, situated far off in the mountains.

346 764 This dead-house is made of a durable wood called *madera del campo santo*, "cemetery wood," which, even in the tropical jungles, is well-nigh imperishable. This

2:Skinner E-5 (1917) 1920
SA19 Talamanca SA19
Bribri

house, according to the informants, is divided into four rooms, each reserved for one of the four geographical groups of the Bribri, residing on the Lari, Tiliri, Uren, and Coen rivers—four upper tributaries of the Sixaola. The roof of the charnel house is not thatched; but it was not certain, from the description of the natives, whether it was otherwise roofed. What they said was that it is completely made of *madera del campo santo*, which may mean that the house has a puncheon roof. The bones of the dead are stored in the room appropriate to their local band, and with them are placed bows, arrows, and various utensils.

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Gabb,[30] who was able to witness the Bribri mortuary ceremonies personally, gives an excellent account, not differing materially from the data furnished by the writer's informants. He states that the funeral fire was kept burning for nine days, and during that time it could not be used for any purpose. At the end of the allotted period only the *isáku* could extinguish it, and then with a calabash of chocolate. Gabb adds that instead of sacrificing the

764

177 Ricans has unfortunately gained in degree
648 since the advent of the vanguard of road-builders for the Pan-American Highway. To date, they have, however, managed to keep relatively free from inter-mixture either by marriage or by cohabitation with non-Indian

[Continued p. 5-B, first paragraph]

VILLAGES

361 The village of Boruca is situated in a low depression on undulating hills, about 6 miles inland from the River Diquis (see fig. 3, *a* and *b*) and at an altitude of approximately 466 meters. As a rule, the day-time temperature
[132] is between 75 or 78 degrees F. The nights are fairly cool, and during the dry season, fog or a very heavy mist is common in the early morning often lasting as late as eight or nine o'clock. These hillocks have been cleared of forest, and are quite bare save for a few scattered shade or fruit trees. There are no
[363] streets, but several narrow foot and animal paths extend through the town. The Indians are accustomed to pick their way over the grass to the houses which are scattered over and in between the hillocks, forming a picturesque panorama which can be best seen from the summit of the two tall hills which flank the village on the northern and south-eastern sides, respectively. Eastward, a trail leads down to a mountain spur which extends in a northeastern direction toward Curré, some 6 miles distant. Formerly, Boruca had
[346 a *cabildo*, or town hall. Today, this has disap-
177] peared, and the wooden schoolhouse and church with its haphazard wire fence are the only semblances of *ladino* architecture.
[351 Although most of the houses have no fences,
417] a very few have wooden ones, hemming in a garden with colored crotons, flowers, or some fruit trees. The school is starting a *manzana*
[245] of vegetables and fruit trees on the outskirts
312 of the town. A small creek, with tree- or bush-lined sides, known by the Spanish name of *La Quebrada* or the Boruca name of *Tupsi*, flows through the community, supplying

[Continued p. 5-B second paragraph]

SUBSISTENCE ACTIVITIES

241 **Farming.** The farms of the *Boruca* contain from three to five *manzanas*, a *manza-na* usually comprising about ten thousand
[804] square *varas*.*

[continued p. 5-B, last paragraph]

*A *vara* equals 33 inches.